THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) A statement is laid the Table of the Sabha. The vacancies are notified to the Employment Exchange as and when they occur.

Statement

Name of the Hospitals	Sanctioned strength of Nurses.	Presently employed Nurses.	Vacant posts.
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi. .	428	406	22
Safdarjang Hospital, New Delhi. . . .	642	642	Nil
Lady Harding Medical College and Smt. S.K. Hospital and Kalawati Saran Children's Hospital, New Delhi.	374	349	25
All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. .	904	836	68
Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain Hospital, New Delhi. .	663	635	28
Govind Ballabh Pant Hospital, New Delhi. .	201	179	22
Din Dayal Upadhyay Hospital, Delhi. . . .	46	46	Nil
Sanjay Gandhi Memorial Hospital, Delhi. . .	8	8	Nil

Inaccuracies in the book 'Urdu ki Nai Kitab'

*234. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the new book 'Urdi Ki Kitab' brought out by NCERT under the new education policy for Class XI completely omits the names of some of the great writers in Urdu and instead the names of minor Pakistani poets have been included; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to withdraw the book containing gross inaccuracies from the school course and also from the market besides making an inquiry into the circumstances under which the book was approved for publication?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) 'Urdu Ki Nai Kitab', a textbook for Class XI for students whose mother tongue is Urdu, is one of a series of textbooks commissioned by the NCERT four years ago. It has been prepared by three scholars of Jamia Millia Islamia under the supervision of a high level committee of Urdu scholars. It is not true that minor Urdu poets of Pakistan have been included.

(b) Does not arise.

Air accord with Canada

*235. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under consideration to cancel the air accord with Canada; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Air India has recommended to initiate action to serve notice of termination of the current India-Canada Air Services Agreement and seek renegotiation of the Agreement on commercial and other technical reasons

Airport at Guntur

*236. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently received any memorandum from the people of Guntur for construction of an airport at Guntur; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Suggestions have been received by Government regarding shifting the present airport at Vijayawada to a new site near Guntur and construction of a new airport at or near Guntur. The suggestions were duly considered. Vijayawada was more centrally located to a number of towns/areas. If the existing airport is shifted, the expenditure incurred on it would be rendered infructuous. The drastic reduction in the Plan allocation for the Civil Aviation sector leaves very limited funds for undertaking any new schemes. For these reasons no action is being taken on the suggestions.

Asiatic Society of India

*237. SHRI NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to curb the autonomy of the Asiatic Society of India;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to continue to help in the growth of such independent Research Centres or Institutes in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) There is no intention of Government interfering with the autonomy of the Society in discharging its duties and functions under the provisions of the Asiatic Society Act. 1984.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government is interested in the promotion of academic studies and research and has been helping such organisations.

Inland Waterways Authority of India

*238. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have recently constituted an Inland Waterways Authority of India to facilitate development of inland water transport in the country;

(b) if so, the composition of the newly constituted authority;

(c) what would be the responsibility of the authority and the manner in which the authority propose to function: and

(d) the extent to which the development of the National Waterways for Inland Water Transport is given impetus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORA (SHRI RAJESHPILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The present composition of the Inland Waterways Authority of India is as follows:—